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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/574,941

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EXAMINER

AGGARWAL, YOGESH K

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/574,941	Applicant(s) HIRABAYASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner YOGESH K. AGGARWAL	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/07/2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Auwens et al. (US Patent # 6,377,518).

[Claim 1]

An image-information recording device (figures 1a and 2, recording device 11), comprising:
image-data identifying means (VOB_IDN1, VOB_IDN2... VOB_IDNi, having multiple cells within the VOBS are assigned a cell identification number, col. 56-col. 6 line 4) for identifying image data based on predetermined image data units (VOBS) and an image data unit group including the image data units (VOBS FOR TITLE as shown in figure 4, col. 5 line 44-col. 6 line 4)

image-information obtaining means for obtaining image information regarding the image data from the identified image data (col. 6 lines 5-28); and

image-information recoding means (control unit 20, see figure 2) for recording, as image information data (figures 3-5), the obtained image information onto a storage medium (optical disk 11), wherein the image information data is managed for each data unit on the storage

Art Unit: 2622

medium (the volume space on the optical disk 11 is managed for each group as shown in figures 3-5).

[Claim 2]

An image-information recording device, comprising: image-data identifying means for (VOB_IDN1, VOB_IDN2.... VOB_IDNi, having multiple cells within the VOBS are assigned a cell identification number, col. 56-col. 6 line 4) identifying image data based on predetermined image data units and an image data unit group including the image data units (VOBS FOR TITLE as shown in figure 4, col. 5 line 44-col. 6 line 4);

image-information obtaining means for obtaining image information regarding the image data from the identified image data (col. 6 lines 5-28); and

image-information recoding means (control unit 20, see figure 2) for recording, as an image-information file group (control unit 20, see figure 2), the obtained image information onto a storage medium, wherein the image-information file group is managed for each data unit on the storage medium (the volume space on the optical disk 11 is managed for each group as shown in figures 3-5, col. 5 lines 44-54 teach that the VMG and the VTS consists of multiple files).

[Claim 3]

The image-information recording device according to claim 2, further comprising: an image information memory for holding image information (the image information memory corresponding to V_PCK); and image-information storing means for storing the obtained image information in the image information memory (figure 5 shows the memory for storing the V_PCK) , wherein the image-information recording means records the image information, stored in the image information memory, in the image-information file group on the storage medium

Art Unit: 2622

(the volume space on the optical disk 11 is managed for each group as shown in figures 3-5, col. 5 lines 44-54 teach that the VMG and the VTS consists of multiple files).

[Claims 4-6]

The image-information recording device according to claim 2, wherein the image-information file group includes a representative image file (figure 7) that holds predetermined representative images of the image data wherein each representative image is first complete image data of each image data unit and each representative image is an I picture in a front-end VOB of each image data unit (col. 6 lines 46-65).

[Claims 7 and 8]

An image-information display device, comprising: attribute obtaining means for obtaining, with respect to image data identified (VOB_IDN1, VOB_IDN2.... VOB_IDNi, having multiple cells within the VOBS are assigned a cell identification number, col. 56-col. 6 line 4) with predetermined image data units (VOBS) and an image data unit group including the image data units, attributes of image information for the image data from image information data in which the image information is recorded on a storage medium for each image data unit (VOBS FOR TITLE as shown in figure 4, col. 5 line 44-col. 6 line 4);

condition inputting means (menu) for prompting input of a search condition regarding an attribute of the image information and receiving the input (col. 7 lines 12-18);

condition searching means (program chain is specified by the producer or selected by the user) for searching the attributes of the image information in accordance with the input search condition (col. 6 line 66-col. 7 line 6, figure 8);

Art Unit: 2622

representative-image obtaining means for obtaining representative images (VOBU) of the image data for the respective image data units from the image information file group in accordance with a result of the searching performed by the condition searching means (col. 7 lines 12-38); and

displaying means for displaying a list of the obtained representative images for the respective image data units (col. 7 lines 31-38).

[Claim 9]

The image-information display device according to claim 8, further comprising: an image information memory for holding image information (DVD recording medium as shown in figure 2), wherein the attribute obtaining means holds the obtained attributes in the image information memory; the condition searching means (program chain is specified by the producer or selected by the user) searches the attributes held in the image information memory in accordance with the input search condition (col. 6 line 66-col. 7 line 6, figure 8); the representative-image obtaining means holds the obtained representative images (VOBU) in the image information memory (see figure 5); and the displaying means displays a list of the representative images held in the image information memory (col. 7 lines 31-38).

[Claim 10]

The image information display device according to claim 8, further comprising: link-information extracting means for extracting link information (e.g. VTSM_TMAPT) indicating relationships between the representative images and the image data from the image-information file group (col.7 lines 18-22); image selecting means for receiving an input of a selected representative image of the displayed representative image list (col. 7 lines 29-31); and image reproducing

Art Unit: 2622

means for identifying the image data associated with the selected representative image based on the link information and reproducing the image data (col. 7 lines 29-39).

[Claims 11-14]

These are method claims corresponding to claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 respectively. Therefore they are analyzed and rejected based upon claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 respectively.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOGESH K. AGGARWAL whose telephone number is (571)272-7360. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (571)-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yogesh K Aggarwal/

Application/Control Number: 10/574,941

Page 7

Art Unit: 2622

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622